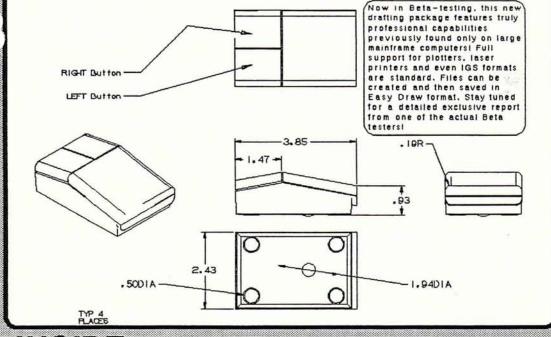


VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

M/CADD: A PROFESSIONAL 2-D/3-D computer aided design system For the Atari ST COMING SOON from MIGRAPH



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Review of PQ Party Quiz (8 bit)
- Are you a Hacker? Try this quiz!
- News of new Atari developments

10 RULES FOR THE USE AND CARE OF A PERSONAL COMPUTER (Reprinted from the COMPUCATS CHRONICLE)

- 1. Never place your computer near a wood or gas burning stove. The fumes produced from these stoves will etch the delicate circuit board on your computer and cause it to deteriorate.
- Never smoke around your computer, nor let anyone else.
 The tar and other contaminants expelled during smoking will etch the circuit board.
- 3. Keep your computer away from carpeting. Touching your computer when charged with static electricity can cause permanent damage to the circuit board. If your computer must be located on a carpet known to produce static, spray the rug on a weekly basis with a static-resistant spray. These sprays are readily available in grocery stores.
- 4. Never allow your computer to overheat. Check the top and bottom of your computer periodically during use to see if it is becoming uncomfortably hot. Specially designed fans can be used to minimize heat damage to computers. If your brand of computer has a tendency to overheat, contact your local dealer for information on obtaining cooling fan.
- 5. Always connect all of the components of your computer to a grounded surge protector. Surge protectors prevent sudden surges of electricity which can destroy a circuit board. Surge protectors are inexpensive and will save you hundreds in repair bills over the years. While you are at it, put one on each of your electrical appliances. You will add years to their lives.
- 6. Never run your computer during thunderstorms. Disconnect your computer from any equipment which might carry an electrical charge to the computer. These include telephone cords to MODEMs and the video connector if your computer is connected to a TV hooked up to a cable or an outside antenna.
- 7. Keep your computer covered when not in use with a tightly woven fabric which breathes but will resist fluids. Tight woven percale is an excellent cover when treated with a water-repellant spray.
- 8. Never eat or drink around your computer.
- 9. Keep animals away from your computer system. All computers act as a magnet to animal hair. Animal hair acts as an insulator and will cause your circuit board to overheat. Dogs can cause further problems by chewing on cables and cords.
- 10. Join a local users' group and take the time to learn about your new computer. If there is more than one group in your area, visit each of them and join the one that will give you the most information for your time any money.

CALTARI

PAGE SIX IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CALTARI USERS GROUP.

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The CALTARI USERS GROUP meets twice a month at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, in the Acropolis Lounge, at 7:30 P.M. on the first Thursday of each month and holds Library nights at the same location on the Tuesday 12 days following the normal meeting.

CALTARI CALENDAR

OCTOBER 1987

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		*		1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 GENERAL MEETING 7:30 PM	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 LIBRARY NIGHT	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NEXT GENERAL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 5TH.



RAMTOP

RAMTOP By Bruce Smith





Well, summer (such as it was) is now over. What would you think of submitting an essay about what you did on your "summer" vacation (with your computer, of course!)? Just kidding!

In that vein though, I will mention what I did. It will be short and sweet. Almost nothing! I spent some time on my modem, entered a little music into my 8-bit using MMS (Midi Music System), and did a little word processing. Not an exciting summer, computer-wise or any-wise. I bought only one program for my ST and a PowerPad plus related software for my 8-bit (for the kids).

Looking at the shelves in the stores, it was not a great summer for new products. There were some releases for both machines, but the list is not very extensive. I will not try to discuss them here, because 1 will likely forget something important. Suffice it to say that the shelves of 8-bit software (if they exist at all) are rather bare. The ST shelves are better stocked, so I guess all you 8-bit owners will just have to buy an ST sooner rather than later (wishful thinking on my part, I guess). The new hardware (Mega ST's) should be here real soon now (really!). Ace-Tech apparently have a demo model now (September 1st), and expect a shipment later in the week.

There have been a number of interesting interviews in the Atari magazines over the last month or so, including one with Trip Hawkins of ELECTRONIC ARTS. Give them a quick read.

I am sorry that the September meeting is so late, but we are constrained by the rules booking rooms at the Campus Centre at SAIT. We cannot book until the second week of school (meaning the week of September 14th). We figured to play it safe and not plan for anything until following week, hence the planned date of September 22nd. Rather complex, and unfortunate, but it is hard to complain since we get the room at such a good rate (free!).

Elections will be coming up before long, and I would suggest that all members think long and hard about this. We need a new President, for one. 1 cannot speak for any of the other members of the executive as to whether they will stand for re-election, but we definitely must think about who we will want to run the club for us next year.

Enough rambling. Besides. this is now exactly one page long.

>>>>>>>>Bruce<<<<<<

PO - PARTY QUIZ

PQ - The PARTY QUIZ Game

I recently purchased PQ because I could not resist the price! When released in 1984, PQ carried a \$70 US price tag, making it near \$130 CDN in our stores. But for the last few months, Abby's Discount Software (Fairborn OHIO), has been clearing them out at \$15 US, making it about \$32 CDN with the exchange. There is NO TAX OR DUTY as it's under \$40 in value!

PQ is a computer trivia game. The package gives you the software, as weel as the special harware required for the game. Including 4 game controllers and interface module that uses BOTH Joystick ports. XL/XE owners can also have 4 players playing simultaneously. Each controller has four large bottons facilitating quick responses for fast game play, and have cords long enough that the players aren't sitting on top of each other.

One to four players can play, even four players playing as two teams. Game play is straight-forward. A question is displayed, and, a moment later the possible answers. Questions are either the true/false type, or multiple choice. A player presses the appropriate number button on his (or her) controller to register an answer.

When the questions are displayed, a timer bar and countdown clock are displayed at the screens bottom. Each question is worth 500 points for true/false questions and 1000 for the multiple choice. The quicker the correct answer is given, the higher the

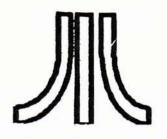
score. The allowed response time can be set from 10 seconds down to 3. Ten seconds allows a very leisurely game, whereas 3 second games can be frantic! Each round consists of 10 questions, and the number of rounds to a game can be set from 5 to 20 rounds (200 questions).

PQ has unique "competitive" and "social" modes. In the social mode, all players get the opportunity to answer the question, even after another player has given the correct answer. The first correct answer will score the most points, but at least everybody has a chance to score something. In competitive mode, only the player with the first correct answer will score points. Correct responses wil give a short musical tine, incorrect answers a "buzzz".

Players can be handicapped. A handicapped player is only allowed half the response time. So, if the response time is se for 10 seconds, a handicapper player's controller is inactive for the first 5 seconds, giving the others a chance to answer first. If a player tries to answer a question not yet seen, by holding down one of the buttons, the word CHEAT appears in his score column, and his controller is disabled for the duration of that question.

Lightning Bonus rounds are occur periodically, giving each player the opportunity to answer 10 questions in 20 seconds, with the score being added to the total.

As I said, I couldn't resist the price, but what a value! The game is well designed and I was impressed with the manual that explains all the game's features. PQ is definitely the best 4-player game I have. It s fun and easy.



Too Much Atari!!!

The following are ways to tell when you have been spending too much time at your computer.

You can tell when you are spending too much time at your computer when...

...your alarm goes off and you haven't been to bed yet.

...you work 3 weeks on a program that only uses 10K of memory, then a friend shows you one that does the same thing in 15 lines.

...your GOSUB never RETURNs.

...you spend the weekend getting a Big Mac out of the keyboard.

...the local "weather radar" stations ask you to power down during their broadcast so the blank spot won't show on their scope.

...you just starting saving the ultimate program you've created and the power goes out.

...your wife starts watching football.

...you check the calendar to find out what season it is.

...you throw a fancy dinner party, and everybody crowds around the computer to take their turn playing Fooblitzky.

...the cat wants to sleep on the computer because it's the warmest place in the house.

...your husband quits complaining about having to go to bed alone, again.

...you start to LIKE cold french fries and warm milk.

...the folks at the computer store know you on a first-name basis.

...a concerned neighbour stops by to see if you're OK.

...your phone bill starts to resemble the national debt after you get your modem.

...you finally win after only 357 hours of play.

...all your friends buy computers, just so they can understand you when you talk.

...a tornado blows the roof off your house and all you notice is that the light is better.

...you believe that if the calculations in your program are correct, the earth was destroyed 3 years ago.

...you can hardly read the BASIC manual for all the tape holding it together.

...you have to press the R, E, or S key five or six times before they work... sort of.

...you start to understand machine code.

...magnets make you nervous.

Reprinted with thanks to Bryan Welch of MAGIC in Ames, IOWA.



BBS LIST

COMING IN ANTIC, NOVEMBER 1987

PRACTICAL APPLICATION CONTEST WINNERS:

-Streamline your personal projects like the pros with David Schwener's

CRITICAL-PATH PROJECT MANAGER.

-Chet Walters' WYSIWYG CASSETTE JACKETS tells you exactly what's on your tapes.

-Save money with Jeffrey Summers' travel planner, YOUR BEST ROUTE.

-Use Alfred Filskov Ill's BIBLIOGRAPHY MASTER, and you'll never have to type in those tedious bibliographies again.

MORE FEATURES:

In THE LAPTOP-TO-ATARI CONNECTION, Charles Cherry shows how to transfer files between your 8-bit or ST and a Radio Shack Model 100

Alan Capesius GALLEONS, the November SUPER DISK BONUS, is an arcade-quality sea battle

November's GAME OF THE MONTH is HOT AND COLD, Heidi Brumbaugh's 8-bit version of "Master Mind"

Stephen Oriold shows you ST users how to TAP THE POWER OF YOUR SYSTEM CLOCK and improve your timing with ST BASIC PLEASE PHONE BY VOICE FIRST AT A REASONABLE TIME TO CONFIRM THAT THE BBS IS UP. PLEASE LET SYSOP KNOW OF ANY ERRORS OR NEW BOARDS IN CALGARY.

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		op	230-3040

ATARI

FAIRE

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WORLD OF ATARI FAIRE SANTA CLARA SHOW DEBUTS -

"FINALIZED" ATARI LASER PRINTER -NEAR-BETA WORD PERFECT...& MORE

> BY NAT FRIEDLAND, ANTIC EDITOR 6/21/87

With all the other Atari Fairs that took place during the past 12 months and the huge Consumer Electronics Show just three weeks ago, it was surprising to find so much new to see last weekend during the hastily-organized World of Atari Faire at the year-old Santa Clara Convention Center.

But several unfamiliar companies with impressive ST software made their Atari Fair debuts last weekend. And a near-production version of the Atari SLM804 laser printer had its first public showing. This report concentrates on products that have not been reported on previously.

The Atari laser printer is smaller and lighter than most current models, but seems just about as fast and sharp. It was operating in Diablo 630 emulation with a 4Mb Mega ST running a pre-release version of the Microsoft Write word processor with a WYSIWYG display. The laser controller board is in a modem-sized box cabled between the

ST's high-speed Direct Memory Access (DMA) port and the printer. This controller box also has a second DMA port for connecting a hard disk.

This 300 dots-per-inch printer supports Atari's GDOS (which automatically uses the highest-resolution available to a printing device). We picked up a selection of the sharp graphics and multi-font printouts that the Atari SLM804 kept churning out throughout the day. Late summer or September is the current estimated market arrival for the Atari Desktop Publishing System.

At a neighboring booth, Word Perfect was showing a near-beta version of the forthcoming ST edition of its bestselling word processor. The GEM-based software, due in September, looked extremely fast and powerful. It will list at \$395 but is often discounted by more than 50% in the IBM version. The WP rep said that the company is working closely with Publishing Partner's developers to assure immediate desktop publishing compatibility for the word processor.

Programmers will Omniware's new Edit/Booster, an ST text editor that also generates GEM code by mouse. Select "Draw A Circle" from a drop-down menu and the GEM code apppears in your program. The version currently on sale just works with C, but up-dates for GFA BASIC, Personal Pascal and Modula-2 are promised soon. Omniware, based in Bellevue, Washington also showed a desk accessory controller for the widely used Hewlett-Packard Laserjet printer and an H-P terminal emulator.

Iliad Software of Orem, Utah, another new entry, showed a powerful, user-friendly CAD/drawing program, Athena II,

selling for \$99.95. Athena requires a lMb ST, but functions in either color or monochrome. Coming soon is a circuit-testing simulation program called Circuit Maker. The company was also showing a multiuser, multitasking operating system, PDOS, which is similar to the system used on 68000-based VME workstations.

A wide-ranging product line specialized business applications for the ST was shown by Hi-Tech Advisors of Winter Haven, Florida. Their \$199 titles included Church Manager, Service Station Manager, Video Store Manager, Inventory Pro and Sales Pro Plus. Mail Pro handles custom mailing lists and form letters for just \$69. SBT of Sausalito, California kicked off a line of dBASE III business accounting modules based on the ST's dBMAN clone.

Beckemeyer Development Tools of Oakland, California showed their latest addition, a touch-screen restaurant menu system. The demonstration model for a Chinese restaurant was almost frighteningly complete and efficient.

Two image scanners were shown at the fair. Navarone, of Sonora, California had a \$1.239 ST system including the Canon IX-12 scanner. The simpler \$99.95 IMG Scan from Seymor-Radix of Irving, TX used a small box that tapes to the print head of any dot matrix printer that supports graphics.

Old-timer Lou Schwing of Astra Systems was gleefully demonstrating the ruggedness of his HD+ unit which combines a 20Mb hard disk and a double-sided ST 3.5" disk. The HD+ was notably cool and even kept operating as he waved it in the air and laid it on its side. DeskCart, a \$99.95 cartridge from Quantum Micro of

Liverpool, New York is a real-time clock/calendar with a full set of Sidekick-type desk accessories including a filer, calculator, address book, notebook, macros, RAMdisk driver and other utilities. The cartridge format is claimed to save memory and operate faster.

The World of Atari was busy and profitable for most exhibitors throughout its Friday-Saturday run. The thriving Antic booth was showing upcoming ST graphics software from The Catalog -- Cyber Paint, a paint program that creates images for animation with Cybermate, and Spectrum 512, a smooth-lined, ultra-clear paint program that can display all the ST's 512 colors simultaneously.





Calgary Herald, Tues., Aug. 25, 1987 (Times-Post news service)

CITY OF COMMERCE, Calif.

-Atari, a personal computer and video game company that has struggled to persuade retailers to see its products, has agreed to buy the Federated Group chain of consumer electronics stores for \$67.3 million in cash.

The acquisition would give Atari, which has been on the mend since being discarded by Warner Communications three years ago, Federated's retail ntework of about 65 stores.

For Federated, the deal could offer an escape from the financial problems it has suffered following a rapid expansion that began in 1984, when it had 20 outlets.

In accepting the offer of \$6.25 a share, Federated's seven-member board said its chairman Wilfred Schwartz and his family have agreed to sell their 55 per cent stake once Atari begins its tender offer for the 10.7 million outstanding shares.

Federated lost \$895,000 in the first quarter, contrasted with a profit of \$662,000 for the same period last year, on sales that rose two per cent to \$91.1 million.

Founded in 1972, Atari was sold to Warner in 1976 for \$28 million. Over the next eight years, Atari produced about \$650 million in profit for Warner, and its sales peaked in 1982 at \$2 billion. A glutted market eventually derailed Atari, however, and it suffered losses of nearly \$875 million during an 18-month period in 1983-84.

But, Atari has returned to profitability. In the second quarter, Atari's profit was up 39.3 per cent to \$13.54 million. Revenue was up 16.4 per cent to \$70.69 million.

THE LATEST NEWS ON ATARI EQUIPMENT & SOFTWARE

Atari Acquiesces

From Current Notes', June 1987 Written by Frank Sommers

-In what the author of the 8-bit emulator for the ST, Darek Mihocka, says, "Was like a bolt from the blue for when Friday night (May 15) Neil Harris puts up a message for me on Genie, saying in effect, in the sum or our exchange, some 30 messages back and forth, that it's OK to go ahead and use Atari ROM's to put out my emulator. Why just two nights before he was up on Genie telling everbody that it was a lousy program."

Darek is a student at a college in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. He has been calling, writing, both postal and E-mail to Atari since January in a effort to get their O.K. to release his

program which, as we noted briefly earlier, will permit you to run 8-bit BASIC programs on the ST. He now also has it running MAC 65 and PAPER CLIP. The program may contain the ROM's in the Atari operating system, in a stipulation by Harris, as long as it appears with the source code publicly. Darek hopes to have it in Analog or Antic soon.

Part of Darek's frustration was that he intended to make no money on it, and intended to offer it free. He wanted to prove that it could be done and add a little more spice to the ST pot. news, Darek, and a wise decision by Atari. Improvement, additions, and modifications should begin to appear almost immediately after the software emulator is out. Seeing the "READY" sign on your ST is an eerie flashback for many of us who started out with the original Atari 800 with its 16K of memory, at a price almost twice that of the 520 ST fully equipped. Who says Atari hasn't progressed!



"We have the best resolution in the industry . . . 3500 lines per inch . . . go ahead, count 'em."



ATARI STORES

The following stores in Calgary carry Atari hardware and software. CALTARI members are eligible to receive a 10% discount on regularly priced software at the stores marked with *. Be sure to have your valid '87-'88 CALTARI membership card with you in order to benefit from these store discounts.

	*Ace-Tech Computers 2845 17 Ave S.E.	273-1511
	*The Computer Shop of Calgary 3515 18 St S.W. (ST only)	243-4356
	(SI OHIY)	
		•
1	*Hot Soft Computer Stores Chinook Mall	258-3565
	*Hot Soft Computer Stores	295-0170
	Deerfoot Mall	
	Round-Again Software 1808 - 1st St N.W. (used software etc.)	276-3923
	Woolco Dept. Stores	

Computer Dept. 6 stores in Calgary

(XL/XE only)



C. She threatens to toss it out Are you Just WHAT is a hacker? of the window. one? Do you want to be one? Could you become one if you tried (3) D. What's a girl? hard enough? Rate yourself with the following questions. What's a CPU? How many hours a day do you spend A. A union for jailed at your computer? accountants. (0) A. It's my brother's computer. (0) B. First aid for heart attack (1) victims. B. 1/2 to 5 hours. (1) C. Central Processing Unit (3) C. I don't know... is it still November? (3) D. A Clandestine South American (2) Intelligence Agency. D. 48 hours religiously. (2) How would you complete the Where do you keep your computer? following statement? A. My bedroom -a close personal Wayne's... affinity. (1) A. Banana B. My living room -I'm a social, out-going and I like to B. Wayne's and Waxes (2) (2) share. C. DOODLES (3) C. Basement -you either have an inferiority complex or a (0) D. Wayne WHO? (1) D&D fetish. D. My closet -we don't have to When your alarm clock goes off, explain this one. (0) you... A. Get up and start your day. What's the relationship between your girlfriend and your computer? B. Roll over and go back to (1) sleep. A. She encourages my use of it. (0) C. Turn your computer off and go to work. (2) B. We always jockey for the best position on the keyboard. (1) D. Get up and switch the disks. (3)

An I/O port is:

- A. A bottle of sweet Californian wine. (1)
- B. A poem by William Wadsworth. (0)
- C. A computer's input device. (3)
- D. Ask Joyce. (2)

When you go outside:

- A. You enjoy a walk in the air and sun. (0)
- B. You hide behind dark sunglasses. (1)
- C. People comment on how death-like you look. (2)
- D. I never, ever, EVER go outside! (3)

A User Group is:

- A. A body composed of 10 legs, 5 heads, 1 secretary and no brain!
- B. A freelance pharmacy on any street corner.
- C. An open forum for the exchange of vast computer information.
- D. It'll cost you \$35 to find out. (2)

Scoring:

Add up the numbers in the parentheses after the answers that you've chosen. Compare this number to the chart below, taken from the High-Hacker Guide to the Universe. The total will give you your hacker's probability ratio.

0 to 1: Rank Amateur

Do you even KNOW what a computer is? You still think HACKING is a bad cough.

2 to 14: Amateur Rank

You mush only use your computer to type in magazine programs. Absolutely no hacking potential.

15 to 24: Minor Hack

Good potential! With 6-10 more hours a day & a year or so of abuse, you too can be a...

25 to 27: HACKERUS MAXIMUS

Graduate with Summa Cum Laude -in all categories available (by appointment only)

Originally published in CitiiNew and reprinted from the Conewsletter.



(0)

(1)

(3)

QUIT CLOWNING AROUND...

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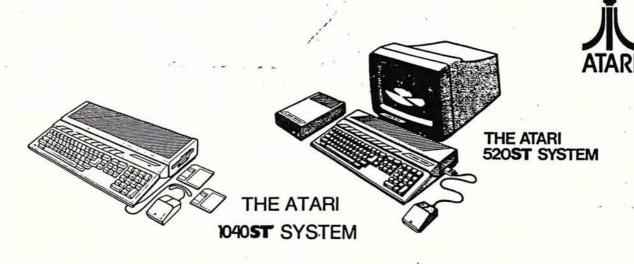
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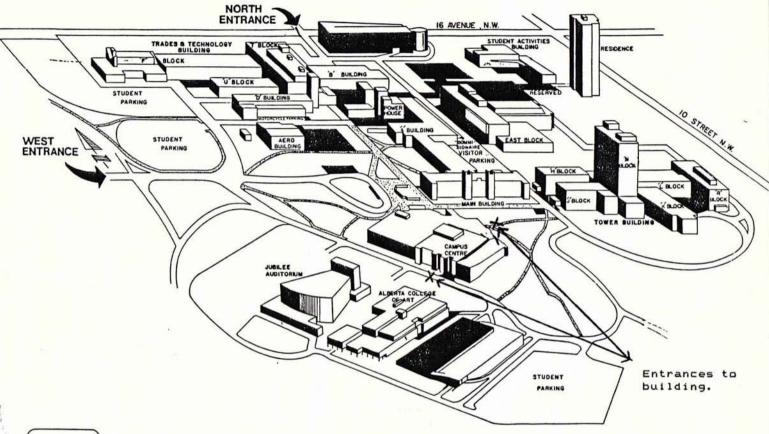
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POWER WITHOUT THE PRICE

CALTARI USTIS GROUP





Southern Alberta Institute of Technology 1301 - 16th Avenue N.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2M 0L4 Regular meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month. The Library night meeting is held 12 days after.

All meetings begin at 7:30 pm. and are held in the ACROPOLIS LOUNGE until further notice.